

County of Los Angeles CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

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June 11, 2007

To:

Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, Chairman

Supervisor Gloria Molina Supervisor Yvonne B. Burke Supervisor Don Knabe

Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From:

David E. Janssen

Chief Administrativ

WASHINGTON, D.C. UPDATE

Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2008 Homeland Security Appropriations Bill (H.R. 2638)

Last week, the House Appropriations Committee approved a FFY 2008 Homeland Security Appropriations bill (H.R. 2638), which includes \$2.1 billion (six percent) more discretionary spending than requested by the President and 14 percent more than in FFY 2007. The White House has indicated that the President would veto appropriations bills which exceed his overall budget requests.

As seen in the attached table, the bill increases funding for all of the Department of Homeland Security grant programs of County interest, including those which would be significantly cut or eliminated under the President's proposed FFY 2008 Budget, such as the State Homeland Security Grant and State and Local Law Enforcement Prevention Grant. H.R. 2638 includes \$50 million for a new Interoperable Communications Grant. The bill also includes increased funding to hire an estimated 3,000 additional border patrol agents, and a \$42.5 million (31 percent) increase for the Immigration and Customs Enforcement's (ICE) Criminal Alien Program to identify and deport criminal aliens.

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Of County interest, the bill includes language directing the Secretary of Homeland Security or a designee to "obtain information from every prison, jail, and correctional facility in the United States to identify incarcerated aliens who may be deportable and make every reasonable effort to remove such aliens judged deportable upon their release from custody." The Committee also directed ICE to report by January 1, 2008 on how it will meet this goal.

We will continue to keep you advised.

DEJ:GK MAL:MT:acn

Attachment

c: All Department Heads Legislative Strategist

FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR (FFY) 2008 FUNDING LEVELS FOR PROGRAMS OF COUNTY INTEREST IN H.R. 2638 HOMELAND SECURITY APPROPRIATIONS BILL (in millions)

PROGRAMS	Enacted 2007	President 2008	House ¹ 2008
State Homeland Security Grant	\$525	\$ 250	\$550
State and Local Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention	375	0	400
High-Threat Urban Area Grants	770	800	800
Rail and Transit Security	175	175	400
Port Security	210	210	400
Interoperable Communications Grants ²	0	0	50
Emergency Management Performance Grants	200	200	300
Firefighting Grants	547	300	570
SAFER ³	115	0	230
Urban Search and Rescue Teams	25	25	35
Metropolitan Medical Response System	33	0	50
Real ID Act Implementation ⁴	0	0	50

Footnote

- 1 As approved by the House Appropriations Committee on June 5, 2007.
- 2 Represents a new grant to assist the State and local governments in meeting their interoperable communications needs.
- 3 SAFER refers to the Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response Program.
- 4 Funds grants to assist States in developing identification documents, such as drivers' licenses, which meet REAL ID Act requirements.